

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): ~~[[The]]~~A method of discovering policies in an abstracted routing element comprising:

tapping ingress and egress ~~streams~~information at a plurality of connections to the element,

filtering the ingress and egress ~~streams~~information at the taps,

collecting the filtered ingress and egress ~~streams~~information from the taps,

correlating the collected ingress and egress information, and

discovering policies used in the abstracted routing element from the correlated ingress and egress information.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1 where the abstracted routing element is an Autonomous System.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1 where the abstracted routing element is a combination of Autonomous Systems and networks.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1 where the policies discovered include routing policies.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 4 where the routing policies are discovered by comparing prefixes advertised at ingress points with prefixes disseminated at egress points.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 1 where the policies discovered include damping policies.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 6 where the damping policies are discovered by ~~the steps of:~~

~~analyzing correlated ingress data~~ the collected ingress information to detect flapping at ~~an ingress node~~ an ingress point, and

~~comparing correlated ingress data indicating flapping with egress data to discover damping policies~~ analyzing the collected egress information to observe how an egress router reacts to the detected flapping.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 1 further including the step of:
comparing discovered policies with predetermined policies.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method of claim ~~8~~ where 1 further including the step of:

comparing discovered routing policies ~~are compared~~ with predetermined routing policies.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The method of claim ~~8~~ where 1 further including the step of:

comparing discovered damping policies ~~are compared~~ with predetermined damping policies.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 1 further including access control providing limited access to discovered policies based on predetermined access classes.

Claim 12 (Original): The method of claim 8 further including access control providing limited access to the comparison of discovered policies with predetermined policies based on predetermined access classes.